

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 02817 062157Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----129345 062207Z /70

O P 061915Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6946
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITA
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2817

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UKJPG TZ
SUBJECT:GARBA CAUTIONS US REGARDING INTERNAL SETTLEMENTS IN
RHODESIA

REF: LAGOS 27577

SUMMARY: GARBA FAVORS SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING THAT WILL DECLARE
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INTERNAL SETTLEMENT UNACCEPTABLE AND CALL ON MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE
TO GET TOGETHER WITH PATRIOTIC FRONT. GARBA WARNS OF DAMAGE TO
CREDIBILITY OF US POLICY TOWARD AFRICA IN AFRICAN AND NIGERIAN
EYES SHOULD US JOIN BRITAIN IN OPPOSITION TO SUCH COUNCIL ACTION.
END SUMMARY

1. GARBA CALLED ME ASIDE AT TONIGHT'S RECEPTION FOR NIGER PRES-

IDENT KOUNTCHE TO REPORT ON BEN MKAPA'S CONVERSATION THIS MORNING WITH OBASANJO. GARBA NOTED THAT MKAPA SAID NYERERE FAVORED A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING AFTER ALL. I SAID WE HAD BEEN SIMILARLY INFORMED IN THE PAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, AND UNDERSTOOD THAT SALIM HAD CONFIRMED IN NEW YORK THAT HE HAD RECEIVED CORRESPONDING GUIDANCE. GARBA SAID WE ALL SEEMED TO BE PRETTY MUCH AGREED ON SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION, IMPLYING THIS WAS WHY HE HAD NOT GOT ME AND MY BRITISH COLLEAGUE TOGETHER WITH MAKAPA AS HE PROMISED YESTERDAY MORNING HE WOULD DO (REFTEL). HE SAID MKAPA WAS LEAVING LAGOS THIS EVENING FOR LONDON AND NEW YORK.

2. GARBA ASKED ME WHEN WOULD THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING START. HE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO PARTICIPATE "SO THAT DECISIONS CAN BE TAKEN ON THE SPOT WITHOUT HAVING TO USE HARRIMAN. I ASKED WHAT KIND OF ACTION GARBA AND MKAPA ENVISAGED FOR THE COUNCIL TO TAKE.

3. GARBA SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH HARRIMAN LAST NIGHT AND A RESOLUTION WAS SHAPING UP WHICH WOULD DECLARE THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT UNACCEPTABLE AND CALL FOR "THE TWO SIDED (I.E., THE TWO REVERENDS ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE PF ON THE OTHER) TO GET TOGETHER AND SORT OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES." I ASKED UNDER WHOSE AUSPICES WOULD THEY BE ASKED TO GET TOGETHER. GARBA SAID THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE THIS QUESTIION; IT MIGHT BE UNDER COUNCIL AUSPICES, OR UNDER ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN CONFIDENTIAL

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AUSPICES, OR PERHAPS A COMBINATION OF THE TWO.

4. I SUGGESTED THAT THE WORDING OF ANY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS'S REJECTION OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT MIGHT PRESENT PROBLEMS.

5. GARBA REPLIED: "YOU KNOW WHERE OUR PROBLEM IS, DON'T YOU - IT'S DAVID OWEN. HAVE YOU SEEN THE BABBLING HE'S BEEN DOING ON THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT? GUIRINGUAD TOLD ME HOW CLEVER HE IS AND HOW WHAT REALLY MOTIVATES HIM IS HIS DESIRE TO TAKE OVER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE LABOR PARTY. THAT'S WHY HE'S ALWAYS SHIFTING GROUND THIS WAY AND THAT. IF THE BRITISH KEEP TO THIS TACK, YOU MUST DROP THEM OTHERWISE YOU WILL SUFFER IN AFRICA. WE HAVE ALWAYS INSISTED THIS ZIMBABWE THING WAS THE BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY. THE REASON WE WANTED YOU IN THE WINGS WAS BECAUSE YOU COULD PUSH THE BRITISH AND YOU WERE THE ONLY ONES WHO HAD INFLUENCE AND LEVERAGE TO APPLY ON SOUTH AFRICA. IF THE BRITISH NOW FAIL TO REJECT THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AND WAVER IN THEIR SUPPORT OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN, YOU MUST SEPARATE YOURSELVES FROM THEM ON THIS ISSUE. IF YOU DON'T YOU WILL LOSE MUCH OF THE CREDIBILITY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS ACQUIRED IN AFRICA AND THERE MAY BE PROBLEMS FOR YOUR PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO NIGERIA." EASUM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTERIM GOVERNMENT, COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, SELFGOVERNMENT, LIBERATION FRONTS, CAT-A
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS02817
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS, CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P810112-0655
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803103/aaaadjmd.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2732f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Reference: 78 LAGOS 27577, 78 LAGOS 2757
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3108582
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GARBA CAUTIONS US REGARDING INTERNAL SETTLEMENTS IN RHODESIA
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, TZ, NI, US, UNSC, (GARBA, JOSEPH N)
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2732f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014